

# Region 9 Education Cooperative

Coordinating Council Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Meeting info: Join Zoom Meeting

Date & Time February 15, 2023 9:00 AM

<https://zoom.us/j/95813134068>

## Minutes

At 9:01a.m. Chairman Lightfoot called the regular meeting of the Region 9 Coordinating Council to order with a quorum present of 4 members. Mr. Patterson, Mr. Lee, Ms. Daugherty and Mr. Lightfoot. Absent were: Dr. Bickert, Mr. Martin, Mr. Lindsay.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the order and content of the agenda. Ms. Daugherty provided a motion to approve the order and content of agenda, a second was provided by Mr. Patterson. A roll call vote ensued, Ms. Daugherty, yes; Mr. Patterson, yes; and Mr. Lee, yes. With all members voting in favor the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes for January 18, 2023. Mr. Patterson provided a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes for January 18, 2023, a second was provided by Mr. Lee. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Patterson-yes; Mr. Lee-yes; Ms. Daugherty-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the previous month's checks for January 2023. Ms. Daugherty provided a motion to approve the previous months checks for January 2023, a second was provided by Mr. Lee. A roll call vote ensued, Ms. Daugherty-yes; Mr. Lee-yes; Mr. Patterson-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the Budget Adjustment Requests (BARS) for February 2023. Mr. Lee provided the motion to approve the BARS for February 2023, a second was provided by Ms. Daugherty. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Lee-yes; Ms. Daugherty-yes; Mr. Patterson-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve Region 9's 2023- 2024 Calendar. Ms. Daugherty asked if there was a date on the calendar for an all school all staff professional development date. A conversation ensued regarding the unknown element of additional hours for schools and the schools not wanting to commit to a date yet due to the uncertainty of everyone's schedules. Mr. Patterson said he would share the draft calendars of Carrizozo that had been sent to his staff for input after the meeting. It was discussed that if an all staff opportunity were to occur it would have to be in the January of 2024 time frame to allow for appropriate planning to occur. Ms. Daugherty provided the motion to approve the Region 9 2023-2024 calendar, with a second by Mr. Patterson. A roll call vote ensued, Ms. Daugherty-yes; Mr. Patterson-yes; Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the Region IX Head Start/EHS COVID-19 Mitigation Policy and Procedures. Mr. Patterson provided the motion to approve the Region IX Head Start/EHS COVID-19 Mitigation Policy and Procedures, a second was provided by Mr. Lee. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Patterson-yes; Mr. Lee-yes, Ms. Daugherty-yes. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the Region IX Head Start/EHS 1303 Facilities Application for both Head Start and Early Head Start. Mr. Patterson provided the motion to approve the Region IX Head Start/EHS 1303 Facilities Application for both Head Start and Early Head Start, a second was provided by Mr. Lee. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Patterson-yes; Mr. Lee-yes; Ms. Daugherty-yes. With all members voting in favor the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve Region IX Head Start -Capitan Head Start Portable Disposition. Ms. Daugherty provided the motion to approve the Capitan Head Start Portable Disposition, a second was provided by Mr. Patterson. A roll call vote ensued, Ms. Daugherty-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes; Mr. Lightfoot-yes, Mr. Lee-abstained. With a majority of 3 members present voting yes and 1 member abstained the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the Hondo Head Start Bus Disposition. Mr. Lee made the motion to approve the Hondo Head Start Bus Disposition,

a second was provided by Mr. Patterson. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Lee-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Ms. Daugherty-yes. With all members voting yes, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the Delegation of authority to the Executive Director of Region 9 to employ and terminate probationary employees through June of 2024. Mr. Lee provided the motion to approve the Delegation of authority to the Executive Director of Region 9 to employ and terminate probationary employees through June of 2024, a second was provided by Mr. Patterson. A roll call vote ensued, Mr. Lee-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Ms. Daugherty-yes. With all members voting yes, the motion passed.

Chairman Lightfoot asked for a motion to approve the contract and salary of the Executive Director. Ms. Daugherty provided the motion to approve the contract and salary of the executive adding a year to the contract to keep a 2 year rolling contract with a 4% salary increase, the two year rolling contract will end on June 30, 2025, a second was provided by Mr. Lee. A roll call ensued, Ms. Daugherty-yes, Mr. Patterson-yes, Mr. Lee-yes. With all members voting yes, the motion passed.

#### Discussion Items

Bryan Dooley informed members of the board that there was an error to the 1/18/2023 Executive Session agenda and stated that the reference to section 7 for threatened or pending litigation was a mistake. There are no threatened or pending litigations for Region 9.

#### Director Status Report

Mr. Dooley gave an update on the leveraged cash balance setup with First National Bank. After reviewing the documents that were drafted the arrangement was not what Region 9 was expecting so Region 9 will continue to search for other sources for funding for the Early Childhood Center. Ms. Daugherty asked what those sources potentially are. Mr. Dooley summarized the resources that are currently being explored. Those sources include potential property developers interested in an ownership position and willing to offer a lease purchase agreement, potential funding through the Village of Ruidoso on GO Bonds, continued conversations with Early Childhood Education and Care Department to support our effort with funding, a grant application with the Daniels

Foundation, and one time funding from the Office of Head Start. Region 9 is continuing the work with Modular Solutions who has now provided architectural drawings of the building and property. Modular Solutions is estimating a buildout of approximately \$8 million dollars which is more than the \$6 million anticipated. Region 9 is working with Modular Solutions to identify alternate vendors to support bringing the costs down. Mr. Dooley will keep the board updated on the progress of the Early Childhood Center.

Region 9 is exploring a Solar Charging opportunity for EV vehicles. The proposal is for two high speed charging stations to be located at the Region 9 physical address 2002 Sudderth Dr.. The company we are working with will cover 100% of the installation and maintenance cost. They provide an advance of 10,000.00 upon completion of installation against future charge revenue which is accumulated at 5% per charge. It is a good location for the charging station since it is adjacent to the midtown area.

The RECs met last week at the roundhouse in Santa Fe. The purpose was to market the Statewide Technology Initiative. The initial response from legislators would indicate that they are favorable in supporting continued funding for this program. HB 401 sponsored by Brian Baca establishes a funding for this work, the bill is titled Digital Equity. This bill is favorable for all the RECs and any support is appreciated. Mr. Dooley also mentioned a few house bills that superintendents should be aware of that will have a negative impact on our rural schools, HB285 which creates a Governor appointed director of the Special Education Bureau, SB 283 which limits expulsion timelines for schools related to children from 6 weeks to 8 years old.

Region 9 will begin seeking requests for related services in February 2023. Requests will need to be turned in by March 1st. RFP for related services is posted for contractors and contracting agencies and it will close March 10th. RFP reviews start March 13th. Powerschool quotes have been provided to the 6 special education directors who currently work under a shared Powerschool IEP system. The Powerschool IEP contact is Megan Sullivan. She will contact each director at the school. There is an ongoing series for school staff including teachers with Evelyn Howard-Hand, the dates including those that have already occurred are as follows: January 18, February 15, March 8 and April 12.

The technology department continues assisting districts with support tickets. A total of 127 requests were completed for January. The Sophos software that provides artificial fishing will expire soon, Mr. Wren and Mr. Villado are exploring alternatives and will keep the council informed. Mr. Villado has completed the Cybersecurity Incident Response Plans for all of the Region 9 support locations (Corona, Carrizozo, Capitan, Hondo and Cloudcroft). Mr. Wren and Mr. Villado will be visiting with the Superintendent of those schools to review their respective document and make changes as needed.

Through the statewide technology initiative the Internal Supports department has 9 students from Tularosa participating in the student support services project. They will be using a curriculum called Test Out. Other schools that will be coming on board in the next 3 weeks to participate and also use the curriculum are Kirtland Central, Hobbs, Bernalillo, Deming High School, and Deming Early College High School. Students at participating Districts will use the Test Out curriculum to earn CompTIA certifications in IT as they complete various modules. The nine Tularosa students were going to attend the Broadband Day in Santa Fe but it was canceled due to weather. They would have made a presentation to the Legislature on their participation in the statewide Tech Initiative. There have been a total of 177 scholarships awarded to educators for the scholarship through ENMU. The Academic Competition has been scheduled for May in Albuquerque. At this time the initiative has 4 Digital Learning Coaches one of those is from Region 9. Tessa Talsma, is meeting periodically with teachers from Carrizozo, Tularosa, Capitan, Cloudcroft and Corona. Additionally there are now 4 IT specialists employed through the RECs, if your District needs support please reach out. The statewide Tech Bits professional development now has all RECs participating. There is a multitude of free professional development opportunities. The free Statewide Call Center is available to students and families, please share with them the link from the directors status report to get support. Region 9 has nine upcoming events in February that will be in-person, virtual, or hybrid

The School Based Health Center has been in contact with school districts to schedule sports physicals for the 23-24 school year beginning April 1st. The Lincoln County Community Health Council's Maze of Life will be held March 15-17. Eighth graders from all Lincoln County Schools will attend along with the 9th grade from Ruidoso who was canceled last year due to snow. Mr. Dooley will also investigate the possibility of having Cloudcroft participate, they traditionally have not been included since they are located in Otero County and served through that county..

Mr. Dooley provided an overview of the Region 9 Coordinating Council manual. It was last updated July 25th, 2019 by Walsh Gallegos. He provided a summary on the agenda with highlighted and commented areas. The entire manual is still relevant and Mr. Dooley recommended no changes to any existing language. He informed the Council that he has communicated with Mr. Lightfoot and the recommendation is to re-approve the Council Policy as is with no changes and no need at this point in time to have it reviewed by legal counsel. The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) that is in place, also stands and is not in need of any update, both the Council Policy Manual and the JPA are linked on the agenda for your convenience and reference.

Mr. Dooley asked the council if they had any input regarding the frequency of Coordinating Council meetings. He shared that a monthly meeting had been established many years ago due to the importance of BAR approval with the increased volume of IGA work with State agencies. Mr. Dooley also shared that he has looked at the schedule of meetings, monthly requirements and suggested that the Council could move to a schedule of every other month if they wanted to delegate BAR approval authority between meetings. He will bring a suggested schedule and proposal for approval to the March meeting.

An update regarding the Region IX Head Start/EHS Focus Area 2 Monitoring Review Report was summarized by Ms. Goeller for the council.

There was discussion regarding the transfer of purchasing Powerschool IEP for each participating district to the individual district. There have been requests from the Special Education Directors from each district wanting administrative control of their data. Under the existing configuration this is not possible. Region 9 staff will be working with

the Powerschool IEP contacts and the individual districts to provide more information. All superintendents present were concerned about the increased cost to their district and had multiple questions about their increased costs.

Items for the next meeting will include the R9 calendar and Coordinating Council policy approval.

Chairman Lightfoot adjourned the meeting at 10:39.

Travis Lightfoot  
Travis Lightfoot (Jul 5, 2013 12:24 MDT)

March 15, 2022